

domestic fowl is undoubted, as I have myself seen a splendid hybrid cock bird, but, owing to his extreme pugnacity, I obtained no satisfactory proof of further offspring being attributed to him. According to native testimony, the Jungle-fowl in the villages adjoining the wild forests freely mix with the domestic birds.

The breeding-season cannot, I think, be confined to any particular time, as I have taken the eggs in both monsoons, and on one occasion I took as many as six from a single nest. The colour is a soft brownish stone, and in some faintly pinkish, finely marked with dots and spots of brown. Endemic.

167. GALLOPERDIX BICALCARATA (Legge, B. of C. p. 741, pl. xxxiii.).

This handsome "Partridge" is very generally distributed over the entire province wherever there is bush or forest cover. It is an exceedingly shy bird, and therefore far more frequently heard than seen, as it very rarely ventures into the open and runs the moment it is alarmed.

It breeds during the latter part of the north-east monsoon and well into the opposite one. The eggs are laid on the bare ground, usually by the side of some fallen tree or other like cover, and are from two to four in number (I have often taken four), of a fine cream-colour, with white specks of no very uniform distribution over the surface. The species is confined to Ceylon.

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XLVI.—*A List of the Birds collected by Mr. Alfred Sharpe, C.B., in Nyasaland.* By Captain G. E. SHELLEY, F.Z.S. With Prefatory Remarks by P. L. SCLATER, M.A., Ph.D., F.R.S.

I. INTRODUCTION. By P. L. S.

ON succeeding to the Governorship of the Protectorate of Nyasaland, Mr. Alfred Sharpe resolved to continue the scientific investigations so long and so successfully carried on by Sir Harry Johnston, his predecessor in office, and

besides other objects of much interest\*, has from time to time transmitted to me several collections of birds, containing altogether 329 specimens. Of these Capt. Shelley, as in the case of Sir Harry Johnston's collections, has kindly undertaken the determinations, and, as will be seen by the subjoined list, has referred them to 167 species. Of these species 23 are now recorded for the first time as belonging to the avifauna of Nyasaland, and two are new to science.

Mr. Sharpe, who is now in England, taking a well-earned rest, has kindly supplied me with the following notes on the localities where these birds were collected:—

*Chiradzulu*.—A high mountain between Zomba and Blantyre rising to 6000 feet above the sea-level, with steep, rocky sides, and the usual brush at the foot. The plains at the foot are about 2800 feet above the sea-level.

*Fort Hill*.—The northernmost station in the Protectorate of British Central Africa. It is three days' journey N.E. of Karonga, on the so-called "Stevenson Road" from Nyasa to Tanganyika. It is 5000 feet above the sea, cold and windy. Being just on the water-parting, it has no large streams.

*Karonga*.—A station at the north end of Lake Nyasa, on the lake-shore.

*Kasungu*.—This place lies 5000 feet above sea-level, 60 miles to the west of Lake Nyasa. It is bleak and cold.

*Kotakota*.—A station on the west shore of Lake Nyasa, on the lake-level. An important starting-point for transport to places on the west of the lake.

*Likweni River*.—A stream on the road from Zomba to the Upper Shiré River, about 18 miles from Zomba.

*Lufira River*.—A stream on the "Stevenson Road," about 35 miles from Karonga (north end of Nyasa).

*Mtondwe River*.—A stream in the plains lying between Zomba and Milanji. The elevation is from 2000 to 2500 feet. The banks of the streams are thickly wooded. Away from the banks there is the usual sparse bush.

*Mwanza*.—A river running into the Shiré River (on the

\* See Mr. Thomas's paper on the Mammals obtained by Mr. Sharpe, Proc. Zool. Soc. 1898 p. 391.

right bank). This is the only district in B. C. A. in which the Inyala (*Tragelaphus angasi*) has been found.

*Namaramba Lake*.—A long narrow lake at the source of the Lujenda River, 1750 feet above the sea-level. There is much game here. It has a hot and dry climate, with a small rainfall.

*Nkata*.—An administration station on the west shore of Lake Nyasa, 30 miles north of Bandawe. It has a moister climate than any part of Lake Nyasa, and the rainfall is distributed more equally throughout the year. It was 85 inches last year.

*Palombe River*.—This river runs through Zomba and the Milanji plains into Lake Shirwa.

*Shirwa Lake*.—A marshy, ill-smelling, hot lake, lying about 12 miles east of Zomba, about 1800 feet above the sea. Great quantities of birds of all kinds are found here. The lake, which has no great depth of water, swarms with mosquitos. There are several rocky islands, on one of which are large deposits of Iceland-spar.

*Songwe River*.—A river which forms part of the Anglo-German boundary between Nyasa and Tanganyika. It is a sluggish stream, thickly overgrown with jungly growth. Its elevation is from 2000 to 2500 feet.

## II. LIST OF THE COLLECTION, WITH LOCALITIES AND REFERENCES TO 'THE BIRDS OF AFRICA.' By G. E. S.

Name.	Reference to Shelley's B. of Afr.	Localities.
	Page	
1. <i>Chalcomitra gutturalis</i> . . . . .	4	Fort Hill.
2. <i>Anthothreptes longuemarii</i> . . . . .	6	Mtondwe.
3. <i>Parus insignis</i> . . . . .	9	Tanganyika Plateau and Songwe.
4. <i>Motacilla longicauda</i> . . . . .	11	Mtondwe.
5. <i>Anthus rufulus</i> . . . . .	12	Songwe.
6. <i>Macronyx croceus</i> . . . . .	13	Mtondwe and Kasungu.
7. <i>Mirafra fischeri</i> . . . . .	15	Songwe.
8. <i>Embeviza orientalis</i> . . . . .	18	Chiradzulu.
9. <i>Serinus scotops</i> . . . . .	22	
10. <i>Hypochera funerea</i> . . . . .	23	Lake Shirwa.

Name.	Reference to Shelley's B. of Afr.	Localities.
	Page	[Chiradzulu.
11. <i>Fidua paradisea</i> . . . . .	23	Lake Namaramba, Mtondwe, and
12. <i>Pyromelana flammiceps</i> . . . . .	25	Mtondwe.
13. — <i>taha</i> . . . . .	25	Palombe.
14. <i>Cryptospiza australis</i> . . . . .	..	Chiradzulu.
15. <i>Spermestes fringilloides</i> . . . . .	28	Mtondwe.
16. <i>Granatina angolensis</i> . . . . .	29	Lake Shirwa.
17. <i>Pytelia afra</i> . . . . .	32	Songwe and Kasungu.
18. <i>Amblyospiza albifrons</i> . . . . .	33	Nkata.
19. <i>Sycobrotus stictifrons</i> . . . . .	37	Mtondwe.
*20. <i>Otyphantus sharpii</i> , sp. nov. . . . .	..	
21. <i>Hyphantornis bertrandi</i> . . . . .	39	Zomba.
22. — <i>cabanisi</i> . . . . .	39	Palombe. [nyika Plateau.
23. <i>Oriolus notatus</i> . . . . .	41	Mwanza, Lake Shirwa, and Tanga-
24. — <i>larvatus</i> . . . . .	41	Lake Shirwa and Mwanza.
25. <i>Pholidauges verreauxi</i> . . . . .	42	Tanganyika Plateau, Songwe, and
26. <i>Lamprolornis mevesi</i> . . . . .	42	Upper Shiré. [Fort Hill.
27. <i>Lamprocolius sycobius</i> . . . . .	43	Likwenu.
*28. <i>Amydrus nyasæ</i> , sp. nov. . . . .	..	
29. — <i>morio</i> . . . . .	44	Zomba.
30. <i>Dilophus carunculatus</i> . . . . .	46	Palombe and Likwenu.
31. <i>Dicrurus afer</i> . . . . .	47	Kasungu.
32. <i>Prionops talacoma</i> . . . . .	49	Mwanza.
33. <i>Sigmodus tricolor</i> . . . . .	49	Chiradzulu.
34. <i>Campophaga nigra</i> . . . . .	50	Likwenu, Tanganyika Plateau.
35. <i>Graucalus pectoralis</i> . . . . .	50	Songwe.
36. <i>Fiscus collaris</i> . . . . .	51	Songwe and Karonga.
37. <i>Laniarius mosambicus</i> . . . . .	53	
*38. — <i>nigerrimus</i> . . . . .	54	
39. <i>Dryoscopus cubla</i> . . . . .	55	Likwenu and Zomba.
40. <i>Telephonus senegalus</i> . . . . .	55	Mwanza and Karonga.
41. <i>Malaconotus sulphureipectus</i> . . . . .	56	Mtondwe.
42. — <i>blanchoti</i> . . . . .	57	Likwenu.
43. <i>Crateropus kirki</i> . . . . .	58	Likwenu Palombe, and Songwe.
44. <i>Criniger placidus</i> . . . . .	62	Zomba.
45. — <i>olivaceiceps</i> . . . . .	..	Chiradzulu.
46. <i>Phyllostrogylus capensis</i> . . . . .	65	Mwanza.
47. <i>Cisticola strangii</i> . . . . .	74	Kasungu.
*48. — <i>subruficapilla</i> . . . . .	74	Zomba.
49. <i>Sylvia simplex</i> . . . . .	81	Nkata.
50. <i>Cossypha caffra</i> . . . . .	84	Zomba. [Lake Shirwa.
51. — <i>heuglini</i> . . . . .	84	Mtondwe, Tanganyika Plateau, and
52. <i>Pratincola torquata</i> . . . . .	86	Kasungu and Zomba.
53. <i>Turdus libonianus</i> . . . . .	88	Mtondwe, Chiradzulu, and Fort Hill.
54. <i>Saxicola livingstonii</i> . . . . .	90	Palombe and Songwe.
55. <i>Thamnolea subrufipennis</i> . . . . .	92	Zomba.
56. <i>Muscicapa cerulescens</i> . . . . .	94	Mtondwe.

\* The names of the 23 species new to the avifauna of Nyasaland are indicated by asterisks (\*).

Name.	Reference to Shelley's B. of Afr.	Localities.
	Page	
57. <i>Smithornis capensis</i> . . . . .	96	Mtondwe and Fort Hill.
*58. <i>Bias musicus</i> . . . . .	96	Mwanga.
59. <i>Pachyprora dimorpha</i> . . . . .	98	Kombi and Fort Hill.
60. <i>Terpsiphone perspicillata</i> . . . . .	99	Kasungu.
*61. <i>Hirundo smithi</i> . . . . .	102	Mtondwe.
*62. — <i>monteiri</i> . . . . .	103	Mwanza.
63. <i>Caprimulgus fossii</i> . . . . .	107	Mtondwe.
64. <i>Cosmetornis vexillarius</i> . . . . .	107	Songwe, Nkata, and Karonga.
65. <i>Hypaloderma narina</i> . . . . .	108	Karonga.
66. — <i>vittatum</i> . . . . .	103	
67. <i>Coracias caudata</i> . . . . .	109	Mwanza, Lake Shirwa, and Songwe.
68. <i>Eurystomus afer</i> . . . . .	109	
69. <i>Melittophagus meridionalis</i> . . . . .	110	Mtondwe.
70. — <i>bullockoides</i> . . . . .	111	Lake Shirwa.
*71. <i>Merops boehmi</i> . . . . .	111	" "
72. — <i>superciliosus</i> . . . . .	111	Karonga and Fort Hill.
73. — <i>natalensis</i> . . . . .	111	Zomba.
74. <i>Irisor viridis</i> . . . . .	112	Mtondwe.
75. <i>Rhinopomastus cyanomelas</i> . . . . .	113	Likwenu.
76. <i>Bycanistes buccinator</i> . . . . .	113	Mwanza.
77. <i>Lophoceros ephrasi</i> . . . . .	114	Lake Shirwa and Likwenu River.
78. <i>Ceryle maxima</i> . . . . .	116	Zomba and Karonga.
79. <i>Alcedo semitorquata</i> . . . . .	116	Mtondwe and Tanganyika Plateau.
80. <i>Halcyon palliventris</i> . . . . .	117	Tanganyika Plateau.
81. <i>Colius striatus</i> . . . . .	118	Karonga and Nkata.
82. <i>Turacus livingstonii</i> . . . . .	119	Songwe.
83. <i>Gallirex chlorochlamys</i> . . . . .	120	Mtondwe. [Songwe.
*84. <i>Gymnoschizorhis leopoldi</i> . . . . .	121	Tanganyika Plateau, Fort Hill, and
85. <i>Schizorhis concolor</i> . . . . .	120	Mwanza.
86. <i>Ceuthnochæres australis</i> . . . . .	122	Chiradzulu.
87. <i>Centropus burchelli</i> = <i>natulensis</i> . . . . .	123	Karonga.
*88. <i>Coccyzus glandarius</i> . . . . .	123	
89. — <i>cafer</i> . . . . .	123	Mtondwe.
90. <i>Cuculus solitarius</i> . . . . .	124	
91. <i>Chrysococcyx cupreus</i> . . . . .	124	
92. <i>Indicator variegatus</i> . . . . .	125	
93. <i>Melanobucco melanopterus</i> . . . . .	126	
94. — <i>zombæ</i> . . . . .	126	Mtondwe.
95. <i>Smilorhis whytii</i> . . . . .	128	Chiradzulu and Mtondwe.
96. <i>Camptothera malherbii</i> . . . . .	131	Mtondwe.
97. — <i>bennetti</i> . . . . .	131	Mwanza.
98. <i>Dendropicus zanzibari</i> . . . . .	132	Songwe.
99. <i>Thripas namaquus</i> . . . . .	133	Mtondwe.
100. <i>Mesopicus griseocephalus</i> . . . . .	133	Songwe.
101. <i>Finago delalandii</i> . . . . .	134	Palombe and Lake Shirwa.
102. <i>Columba arquatrix</i> . . . . .	135	
103. <i>Turtur semitorquatus</i> . . . . .	136	Lake Shirwa.
104. — <i>senegalensis</i> . . . . .	137	Mwanza.
105. <i>Chalcopelia afra</i> . . . . .	137	Lake Shirwa.

Name.	Reference to Shelley's B. of Afr.	Localities.
	Page	
106. <i>Eua capensis</i> . . . . .	138	Songwe.
107. <i>Pocephalus fuscicapillus</i> . .	139	Likwenu.
108. <i>Strix flammea</i> . . . . .	141	Songwe.
109. <i>Syrnium woodfordi</i> . . . . .	142	Likwenu.
110. <i>Glaucidium capense</i> . . . . .	142	Zomba.
111. <i>Scops leucotis</i> . . . . .	143	Zomba and Tanganyika Plateau.
112. <i>Bubo maculosus</i> . . . . .	143	Zomba.
113. <i>Pandion haliaëtus</i> . . . . .	144	Lake Namaramba and Karonga.
114. <i>Falco ruficollis</i> . . . . .	145	Lake Namaramba.
115. <i>Milvus ægyptius</i> . . . . .	147	Zomba.
116. <i>Haliaëtus vocifer</i> . . . . .	148	Likwenu.
*117. <i>Helotarsus leuconotus</i> . . . . .	148	Mwanza.
118. <i>Lophoaëtus occipitalis</i> . . . .	149	Mtondwe.
*119. <i>Circuëtus fasciolatus</i> . . . . .	150	Mwanza.
*120. — <i>cinereus</i> . . . . .	150	Likwenu.
121. <i>Asturimula monogrammica</i> . .	151	Palombe and Mtondwe.
*122. <i>Melierax canorus</i> . . . . .	151	Lake Namaramba.
123. — <i>gabar</i> . . . . .	151	Mtondwe and Mwanza.
124. <i>Circus macrurus</i> . . . . .	153	
125. — <i>ranivorus</i> . . . . .	153	Karonga.
126. <i>Hagedashia hagedash</i> . . . . .	156	Mtondwe.
127. <i>Herodias ralloides</i> . . . . .	156	Lake Shirwa.
128. — <i>lucidus</i> . . . . .	157	" "
129. <i>Ardea melanocephala</i> . . . . .	157	Karonga.
130. — <i>purpurea</i> . . . . .	157	Lake Shirwa and Likwenu.
131. — <i>goliath</i> . . . . .	157	Lake Shirwa.
132. <i>Butorides atricapilla</i> . . . . .	158	Mtondwe.
*133. <i>Mycteria senegalensis</i> . . . . .	159	
*134. <i>Tantalus ibis</i> . . . . .	160	
135. <i>Phalacrocorax africanus</i> . .	160	Lake Namaramba.
136. <i>Plotus levaillanti</i> . . . . .	161	
137. <i>Hydrochelidon leucoptera</i> . .	162	Lake Namaramba.
138. <i>Larus cirrhocephalus</i> . . . . .	165	Lake Shirwa.
139. <i>Sarcidiornis melanonota</i> . . . .	170	
*140. <i>Nettopus auritus</i> . . . . .	170	Kotakota.
141. <i>Dendrocycna viduata</i> . . . . .	171	Lake Shirwa.
142. <i>Anas undulata</i> . . . . .	172	
143. <i>Pœcilonetta erythrorhyncha</i> .	172	Karonga.
144. <i>Podiceps capensis</i> . . . . .	174	
145. <i>Podica petersi</i> . . . . .	175	Mtondwe.
146. <i>Porphyrio alleni</i> . . . . .	175	Kotakota.
147. — <i>porphyrio</i> . . . . .	175	Lake Shirwa.
148. <i>Coturnix capensis</i> . . . . .	178	Lake Namaramba.
149. <i>Pternistes humboldti</i> . . . . .	179	Lake Shirwa.
150. — <i>cranchi</i> . . . . .	179	
*151. <i>Francolinus coqui</i> . . . . .	180	Tanganyika Plateau.
152. — <i>johnstoni</i> . . . . .	182	Lufira River.
153. <i>Guttera edouardi</i> . . . . .	183	Mwanza.
154. <i>Phyllopezus africanus</i> . . . . .	187	Lake Namaramba.
*155. <i>Stephanibyx coronatus</i> . . . .	188	Songwe.

Name.	Reference to Shelley's B. of Afr.	Localities.
	Page	
*156. <i>Charadrius asiaticus</i> .....	189	
157. — <i>pallidus</i> .....	189	Karonga.
*158. <i>Ægialitis hiaticula</i> .....	190	"
159. <i>Oxyechus tricoloris</i> .....	190	Lake Shirwa.
*160. <i>Arenaria interpres</i> .....	190	
161. <i>Totanus nebularis</i> .....	192	Karonga.
162. — <i>hypoleucus</i> .....	192	Karonga and Lake Shirwa.
163. <i>Himantopus himantopus</i> ..	193	Karonga.
*164. <i>Edicnemus vermiculatus</i> ..	194	Likwenu.
165. <i>Cursorius temmincki</i> .....	194	Songwe.
166. <i>Rhinoptilus chalcopterus</i> ..	195	"
167. <i>Glareola pratincola</i> .....	195	"

### III. DESCRIPTIONS OF THE NEW SPECIES. By G. E. S.

#### OTYPHANTES SHARPII, sp. nov.

Upper surface entirely olive-yellow and black; under surface entirely bright golden yellow; lores, cheeks, ear-coverts, top and back of head jet-black; the plumage gradually shading off into uniform olive-yellow on the lower back, upper tail-coverts, and tail; the feathers of the upper back and wings being black with broad pale edges of olive-yellow, becoming almost clear yellow on the quills; under wing-coverts and inner margins of the quills yellow: bill black; tarsi and feet pale brown. Total length 6·2 inches, culmen 0·7, wing 3·15, tail 2·6, tarsus 0·95.

*Hab.* Nyasaland (exact locality unrecorded).

Allied to *Symplectes stuhlmanni*, Reichen. Orn. Monatsb. 1893, p. 29.

#### AMYDRUS NYASÆ, sp. nov.

Closely allied to *A. caffer* in size, form, and colouring of both sexes when the wings are closed, but differing in the dark under surface of the wings, which is black, with the pale portion uniform deep chestnut both below and above, and the shafts crossing the rufous portion are above brownish black instead of white. Total length, ♂ 9·5, ♀ 9·1 inches; culmen, ♂ 0·85, ♀ 0·8; wing, ♂ 5·3, ♀ 5·15; tail, ♂ 3·9, ♀ 3·8; tarsus, ♂ 1·05, ♀ 1.

*Hab.* Nyasaland (exact locality unrecorded).